



# Team 2003-2004 Newsletter



Lend a Hand

Chuck Johnson, District Governor 2003-2004

NOVEMBER 2003

Reina S. Diamond, Editor

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**November is  
Rotary Foundation Month**

## Just Doing Enough



As I write this message, I am at the Zone 27-28 meeting in South Bend, Indiana. Susie and I, unfortunately, consider this to be a vacation from our regular Rotary week. It isn't really much of a vacation since it is meant to update, teach and motivate the choir. It is also supposed to train the district Governor-Elect, Chris Reilly, and 24 other DGEs. There are lots of meetings and seat numbing speeches.

Past RI Vice-President Sonny Brown, of El Paso, Texas, and Rotary Foundation Trustee, gave Saturday morning's speech. He is a superb speaker using a southern style. I was intently listening when I heard him hit the phrase hard "**JUST DOING ENOUGH.**" My brain jumped from his track to another track. My first thought was:

- Am I doing enough to help the clubs?
- Am I doing enough to motivate those clubs that needs focus?
- Am I giving the Presidents and District Leadership the support they need?
- Am I making an impact? Is the District making an impact?
- Are the Presidents being aggressive in leading their clubs?
- Are the clubs just getting by? Just doing enough?

Now you see my train of thought. Are we all just doing enough to get by? Our theme this year is to "Lend A Hand." I think my main duty, as District Governor, is to be the district's chief cheerleader and motivator. The sixty-three presidents and I have eight more months to motivate our membership to not just do enough, but to do the best they can. Most of the presidents have attended the Presidents Roundtable and the District Foundation Seminar so they may bring ideas back to their members. Inspiring ideas that can lead our clubs and our District to do truly fantastic things. Projects like "Lending a Hand" to Chicago Midwest with their chess and literacy projects. These two projects are going to make a difference in the Pilsen district and Rotary is going to give them that opportunity to make a difference. We must "Lend them A Hand!"

With only eight more months to go we must all push to finish our plans. We must all "Lend A Hand" to make it happen.

The **District 6450 Conference** is in the planning stages but there are only sixty more days before we have to pay **11% more** for the conference. I believe that would be a **44% yearly return on an investment**. At least that is what our stockbroker would have said during the dot.com years. As your Governor, I recommend you reserve your spot before the discounted price expires.

*D.G. Chuck*  
Chuck Johnson, District Governor

## Towards Chicago 2005

In just over a year and one-half, the Rotary world will come to Chicagoland, as Rotarians worldwide visit our area to celebrate **Rotary's Centennial at the RI Convention on 19-23 June 2005**. If you are not excited about the implications of this landmark event, you should be! It promises to leave you with memories that will last your lifetime, and give you an opportunity to share your thoughts with Rotarians from literally every corner of the globe.

Breaking news story! Well almost, but it is important news to all of us as Rotarians involved with the RI Centennial Anniversary Celebration. The **Home Hosting Event**, normally held on Monday evening of the convention week, will be held the **previous Saturday**, late afternoon and evening. Given Chicago rush hour traffic during the week, this is significant. Now more Rotarians living farther away from the City can participate in one of the key highlights of the event.

More exciting news... Everybody loves a **Parade** and we're going to have a great one! It will be held on **Saturday in downtown Chicago**. We are not sure what time yet, but we do know it will be festive. The plan is to have all continents of the Rotary world represented by Rotary districts displaying their local culture and international projects. All of the Avenues of Service, Foundation projects, and other important programs will be on display. We will be called upon to help with the floats, participate as parade marshals, etc.

**Volunteers! Volunteers!** And we're not talking from Tennessee (!), but from the entire Chicagoland area. And, speaking of volunteers, have you signed up yet? See the volunteer form when you go to our District website: [www.rotary6450.org](http://www.rotary6450.org) for more information. We need immediate help with fundraising and IT (Information Technology); these are but two of the ways Rotarians will be called upon to get involved. There are a number of opportunities for your expertise; we will talk about them in future issues of this newsletter. Stay tuned... Get involved – join the team – you'll be happy you did!

**PDG Brian Andersen, District Centennial Chair**

### More breaking news... You, Host and Participant

**How many will come?** With 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide, it's anybody's guess as to how many will be in Chicago to celebrate 100 years of Rotary. Estimates range from 30,000 to 100,000. It will take over 50,000 to surpass the Tokyo and Seoul Conventions. **Start making plans to attend and let your president-elect know.**

**What will visiting Rotarians find?** In addition to the events highlighted by PDG Brian, the Host Committee has done its utmost to showcase the best that Chicago and the Midwest have to offer. In order to accommodate the ambitious plans, an extra day is being added to the Convention activities! A **Host Special Activity** will be on **Monday night** (repeated on Tuesday if the demand is present). Rotarians can drink in the wonders of our magnificent **Museum Campus, with tours of the Field Museum, the Art Institute, the Adler Planetarium, and the Shedd Aquarium** as they enjoy specially selected food and refreshments. Spectacular tours of our city and must-see tours of points of Rotary interest have also been prepared. The **Rotary Club of Chicago** will hold meetings every day to allow Rotarians to make up at the First Rotary Club. Plans are in the works for a **permanent commemorative edifice or garden to mark Rotary's Centennial** and to highlight Rotary's contribution to our world. This will serve to tell Rotary's story to future generations. All this and an International Convention to boot! This is an event that you don't want to miss! **Please mark the convention in your calendars now!**

### For Club Officers:

Please share the news of your club with the district: ***new members, community service activities, participation in Rotary Foundation programs, fund raising events, etc.*** Your commitment, enthusiasm and inspiration should not be our best kept secret! E-mail your stories to [RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM](mailto:RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM).



### PolioPlus and 2005

Rotary expects to announce **a world free of Polio in 2005**. The exclamation point to the announcement will take place on **Sunday morning 19 June**. The **final race in the "Race to the Finish" PolioPlus fundraiser series** (sponsored by Districts 6450 and 6440) has been confirmed. The lakefront course will have signage placed strategically denoting the approximate dates when polio was eradicated from each country.

## Meet the Partners

By Ruth Kaplan, wife  
of PDG Irv Kaplan

### Why do I love Rotary?

“Why do I love Rotary?  
For me this is easy to answer, the majority of my best friends I have met through Rotary. These friendships are rewarding and enduring. My wake up talks, daily conversations and pillow discussions seem to be dominated by Rotary talk. Irv and I have attended numerous holiday celebrations, birthday parties, going away parties, weddings and funerals of Rotarians because of our love for Rotary participation.

To this day we continue to arrange for vacations with other Rotary couples and individuals. Our children are well informed about what Rotary is and what Rotary does. All our children are proud to be Paul Harris Fellows and can speak about Polio-Plus and other Rotary subjects. Since Irv served as a District Governor in 1988-1989, our business office has become a clearinghouse for Rotary matters and questions that need immediate attention from Rotarians in our District. Together with Irv I have attended 17 International Conventions, 16 Zone Institutes and hundreds of Rotary meetings including programs and events such as the “Open World Program,”

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Rotary International Presidential Conferences and over 30 District Conferences. Many of these meetings have been in other states and foreign countries that make up our Rotary World. We have served together as GSE Team leaders to Turkey and developed lasting relationships with all the people we’ve met throughout our privileged travels. Do I love Rotary and my Rotary Family? You bet your pretty life I do!

Thank you for the opportunity to express my feeling about my Rotary Family.

### Youth Exchange

It’s time to get the word out about

“One of the best kept secrets in Rotary”

It’s time for local Rotary Clubs **to recruit students to travel overseas in August of 2004 and spend an exciting year studying abroad as a Rotary youth Exchange student.** For over forty years young people between the ages of 15 and 19 have participated by spending a year studying and living abroad in this worthwhile international activity promoting global peace and understanding. The program has a twofold purpose: To promote international good will and understanding at the person to person level and to provide the opportunity for study and international living abroad for a period of one year. Ideal candidates should also possess qualities – like flexibility and a willingness to try new things – that will enable them to become excellent cultural ambassadors. A student does not have to be involved with Rotary in any way in order to apply, although children of Rotarians are more than welcome to participate. Students should apply early, up to a year in advance of when they wish to leave. **District interviews will be held from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon on 11/15/03 at the LaGrange Country Club.** Following their selection, the student is guided through a series of orientation sessions so they will be ready for their life in a new country.

Rotary Clubs in District 6450 can recruit candidates in several ways. Word of mouth to family and friends, contacting the local school district, putting on a presentation at the school, holding an information session after school for interested students, and having current Inbound Youth Exchange students speak to student groups. **Now, this is the time to recruit.** Make this one of your club activities. A little publicity and contact with school officials can go a long way toward introducing Rotary Youth Exchange Program to students. As exchange programs go, it is affordable for most students and provides the support of a Host Rotary Club to the student while they are on exchange. A safety net for the youth. For information, contact Jim Chestnut, District Inbound Coordinator at [jimchestnut@bigplanet.com](mailto:jimchestnut@bigplanet.com) or 708-799-8298, or contact Guy Groot, District Youth Exchange Chairman at [g.groot@mchsi.com](mailto:g.groot@mchsi.com) or 630-466-1091. Applications are available for the students on the Central States Rotary Youth Exchange Website, [www.csr.org](http://www.csr.org). There are many young people deserving of the opportunity of experiencing “one of the best years of their life.” Let’s get the word out!

**Peace Scholarship Candidate Selected** – ADG Prof. Bob White, who chaired the selection committee, informed us that our district candidate for the 2003-2004 Peace Scholarship is **Kimberly Hurd, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chicago Financial District.** She wants to study in Argentina. She will compete now with Rotary candidates worldwide for 70 two-year scholarships in Peace and Conflict Resolution. The selection committee members were: DG Chuck Johnson, DGE Chris Reilly, PDG Fred Otto, and Foundation Committee Chair Paul Carpenter.

*On the Lighter Side* – From *Stripped Gears*, THE ROTARIAN, April 1991. This is one of their most famous “one liners:” **After all is said and nothing is done, the committee meeting is over.**

*Interact Corner-* The **Bolingbrook High School Interact Club**, sponsored by the **Bolingbrook**

**Rotary Club**, was brought into existence at a festive Charter Dinner on 30 September.

The new Interactors were reinforced with plenty of pizza and frozen custard. They were encouraged by the presence of members of the Bolingbrook Rotary Club, District Governor Chuck Johnson and his wife Susie, District Interact representatives, members of the School Board, parents and administration from Bolingbrook High School. They were energized by the dedication and commitment of their sponsor Megan Lepper. But even more so they were motivated by the opportunity to serve others in the tradition of Rotary International.

Governor Chuck presented the Charter to the new club, installed the first officers of the Bolingbrook High School Interact Club. Ruth Blumenstein, president of the Bolingbrook Rotary Club, assisted the Interact Club sponsor in presenting membership cards to the charter members of this newest Interact Club. With standing ovation, cheers and smiles these new Interactors were welcomed in to the Rotary family. The warmth and celebration of that evening will be remembered by some, but it will certainly be dwarfed by the joy and fulfillment that Interactors receive as they put service above self.

The twenty-four charter members of this club have a list of possible service projects, which include: Habitat for Humanity, Guardian Angel Home, tutoring, UNICEF, area nursing homes. They are looking to join with the Rotary Club and other Interact Clubs in the area to serve the community and broaden their vision to include the international projects.

**Paul Carlson, Vocational Service Chair, Bolingbrook Rotary Club**

**From the desk of Chris Reilly,  
District Governor-Elect**

How many times have you been asked to make a contribution to **The Rotary Foundation**? This is a frequent request, so your answer may well be, "Too many!" Unfortunately, the issues addressed by the Foundation do not go away and too many of our District Rotarians are non-responsive to the request. It could be we have heard the request so often that we tune it out and don't really hear it. The message might be better heard if we really understood the good our Rotary Foundation does worldwide and why a stronger Foundation will only enhance the effort. I am hopeful that the thoughts below will cause you to pause and reflect on the great bounty that we Americans enjoy. Then, comfortable, you will recognize your need to share that bounty. If you spend even a little time reading about YOUR Foundation, you will discover how profoundly it helps people. If you have the privilege of being a Rotarian, the credit for these daily worldwide wonders is ascribed to you, whether you are a contributor or not. As with most things in life, that credit would be sweeter if you were a real stakeholder.

In our land of plenty, it is hard to comprehend such a thing as true hunger. My stomach starts growling if I am an hour late for lunch. My hunger results not from a lack of food, but merely a delay in my routine, and is easily remedied (too easily in my case). For many in the world, hunger pangs are routine and there is no food and no recourse. When I am sick, top-notch medical service is a phone call or short drive away. In many parts of the world, neither a phone, nor a doctor, nor medical supplies are available, much less affordable. Impoverished living conditions and ignorance allow diseases unheard of anywhere in the Midwest to flourish. Polio, a disease we mostly forgot about decades ago, still afflicts many pockets of humanity in the world. Whatever the climate we live in, we have the means to make our environment



comfortable. Just finding shelter and fuel of any kind is a problem for many sharing our planet. Most everyone I know, including District 6450 Rotarians, is literate (although some seem to try and hide it). We are accustomed to compulsory education. We should be mindful that in much of the world, education and literacy are an unattainable privilege for many.

We are about to declare victory over Polio. Foundation dollars provide potable water, something we take for granted, through the financing of deep wells and Sun Ovens to sterilize water. Clean water is a large factor in the prevention of many biological-based diseases. While the Foundation cannot fix all the world's problems, somewhere, right now, Foundation activities are eliminating some form of pain. Because of your Foundation, someone you will never meet will be given the chance to live. Our help comes in many forms. Rotary Educational gifts allow thousands of Ambassadorial Scholars and hundreds of Group Study Exchange teams to share values with other cultures. These bridges foster understanding between peoples and, at the same time, highlight inequities to be addressed. Anyone who is helped in the name of Rotary is helped by you.

Oh yes, that often-asked request first mentioned truly is the bottom line. You wear the pin, why not become a full partner in the Foundation's work? Become a contributor! Give what you can give, but give! Whether it is \$25 a year, a \$100 (the level of a sustaining member and The Rotary World's Centennial Goal), or more, join the team. Service Above Self requires it!

## Naperville

I attended my first **Naperville Rotary Oktoberfest** as a volunteer working the stroller valet and grill, and wondering if it was okay to try some of that good-looking suds. By Sunday I had that angle figured out. Anyway, the precision and scale of the whole affair astounded me. Even eleventh-hour fire code changes were carried out in time to strike up the band and open the doors of the bright and roomy clear span "tent."

There was Susan Kubira, with a cast on her broken ankle, cake-walking like Chester Goode, making sure that all the signs were placed properly and that senior citizens were well taken care of on their special day. The seniors loved it, though one elderly man got off the bus, looked up at the huge tent and asked, "what's that building doing here?" A young woman looked at the "Welcome Seniors" sign over the entrance and asked when she could go in.

Later, there was Rich Mikel running down Van Buren Street waving a walker, trying to catch the nursing home van that had left the device on the sidewalk.

There were members of the **Morris Rotary Club** selling Mini Cooper raffle tickets with a zeal that would have put Ed McMahon to shame. Inside, the **Naperville Sunrise Rotary Club** was holding its own fund-raiser within a fundraiser.

According to Bill Garlough at My Chef Catering, we gobbled nearly 9,000 portions of sauerkraut and other side dishes; We ate over 5,500 bratwursts, 1,300 hot dogs, 100 gallons of sauerbraten gravy and 300 gallons of pork gravy. Chairman Art Davis summed up this 12<sup>th</sup> Oktoberfest as a great success, thanks to scores of volunteers from Rotary as well as other community groups, area college students, over 100 volunteers from the **Interact Club at Naperville Central** and tireless Rotary spouses who manned their posts throughout the event.

**Bruce K. Dixon**

## Are you hungry?

By Kathleen R. Kobak

Do you remember the article in the September 2003 issue about the pilot project called "**The Growing Connection?**" Let me attempt to explain this a little more in depth. This project began with the FAO which is **THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**. So what does that mean, you ask?? The FAO was founded in 1945 with a mandate to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living, to improve agricultural productivity, and to make better the condition of rural populations. The FAO provides a neutral forum where all nations can meet to discuss possible solutions to the major food and agriculture issues. Currently, there are 183 member countries belonging to the FAO. We all know of people around the world and some right here in the USA who are undernourished; actually many are downright starving. Trying to reach many of these people who live in some of the remotest corners of this world can indeed be a challenge. Rotary, well known for its assistance in helping others can also get involved in this project. As was indicated in the September issue, the FAO is coordinating "The Growing Connection" project with USA and Ghana with the main focus on the Chicagoland area. They are indeed looking forward to Rotarians helping them in these efforts.

**Have you yet chosen your Community Centennial Project?** By now many of you have but this could be a little extra something that you may want to look into. More information will be following regarding this project. We are in the process of speaking with people from the UN working for FAO to determine some concrete, tangible, ideas or suggestions of exactly what we can do. Rotary International has been officially involved with FAO since 1997. We have many creative minds in this wonderful organization called Rotary and many generous individuals who want to reach out and help. Some of the words that define humanitarian are: considerate, generous, public-spirited, helper, benefactor. Rotarians around the world are all of this and so much more. Recently, my youngest brother returned from a 3-year term in the Peace Corps. He spent his three years in Cameroon, West Africa. The poverty he saw with his own eyes and felt in his own heart has indeed changed him. Yes, we do have our share of challenges right here in our own country but they are a far cry from what people in some other countries must endure. If any clubs in our district are interested in learning more about this project, please contact Kathy Kobak from the **Oak Lawn Rotary Club**. E mail: [kathy\\_kobak@hotmail.com](mailto:kathy_kobak@hotmail.com). Phone 708-361-1177.

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## La Grange

The La Grange Rotary Club will conduct its **third annual Pilgrim Pacer 5-K Run/Walk on Sunday 23 November**. The start is 8:30AM at Lyons Township High School North Campus, 100 East Cossitt Avenue, La Grange.

Start Thanksgiving week by helping support this growing fundraiser as it winds through the flat streets of picturesque La Grange! Contact Race Director Ken Daemicke at (630) 887-7838 or [daemicke@mpscpa.com](mailto:daemicke@mpscpa.com) for an application or additional information.

## The Rotary Foundation

By Rick Thiernau, District Governor-Nominee

November is one of my favorite months in Rotary. The reason: It is Foundation Month.



I get very excited when the conversation is about The Rotary Foundation of RI. I think you should too.

Why you ask? If you are a Rotarian, The Rotary International Foundation is **YOUR** Foundation. It is my Foundation. It is **OUR** Foundation. How can you not get excited about something that does so much good in the world and **YOU** make it happen. PolioPlus – ridding the world of polio, Humanitarian Programs – grants to fund club and district services projects, and Educational Programs like Ambassadorial Scholarships, Group Study Exchange and World Peace Scholarships. You are a valuable part of all the good that The Foundation does. You should feel proud to be part of a global service organization like Rotary.

Right now, The Rotary International Foundation needs something from you – **YOUR SUPPORT**. Every Rotarian, every year, should be financially supporting the Foundation. “How much,” you ask? At least \$100 per year, every year you are a Rotarian. Your support shouldn’t end when you become a Paul Harris Fellow. It shouldn’t end when you become a member of the Bequest Society or a Major Donor. As long as you wear the Rotary pin, you should expect from yourself (and others) to support The Rotary International Foundation.

If you would like to learn more about the Foundation or how to support the Foundation, please feel free to contact me. You will find out this is one of my favorite Rotary topics.

Thank you for your support of **OUR** Foundation.

## The Western Springs Rotary Club’s Annual International Christmas Reception

7 December 2003 – 2:00 to 4:00 pm

You are cordially invited to attend a Christmas reception for **ALL** District 6450 Rotary Foundation Scholars, GSE Team Members, Rotary Foundation Alumni and Youth Exchange Students, hosted by The Rotary Club of Western Springs. Come and enjoy, “*The International Experience.*”

We want to see all Counselors, Outbound Parents, Inbound Host Parents and Foundation and Youth Exchange committee persons in attendance. Enjoy Rotary fellowship at its best. Meet host families, exchange ideas and experiences. Members from the above committees and the District leadership will be available to answer questions you may have.

PLACE: Christian Reformed Church  
5200 S. Wolf Road, Western Springs, IL 60558  
708-246-4638

**From South:** I-294 exiting at Wolf Rd. Turn right at Wolf Road exit and go north. The Church is located at 5200 Wolf Rd. The church entrance is between 53rd St. and 51<sup>st</sup> St. Turn left (West) into the Church parking lot.

**From North:** I-294 exiting at Ogden Ave, (Western Springs EAST). Go east to first stop light (Wolf Road), turn right and go South to Church entrance between 51<sup>st</sup> and 53<sup>rd</sup> St. Turn right (West) into the Church parking lot.

**From East:** I-55 exiting at LaGrange Rd. Go North to 55 St., turn left and go West to Wolf Rd. Turn right and go North to the Church entrance which is between 53rd and 51st St. Turn left (West) into the Church parking lot.

Please make sure all sponsoring clubs provide transportation for their Foundation Scholars and Youth Exchange Students. **Counselors**, please notify Rick Quackenbush if your Foundation Scholar **will not** be in attendance. Rick can be reached at Home 630-961-1367 or Work 630-844-5319. *For further information, contact John Gilbert, President –Elect of the Western Springs Club. at 708-482-6666.*

## More Club News

### Chicago Southeast and Chicago-Rogers Park

Derrick Baker, President of the Rotary Club of Chicago Southeast, reported that two Area 4 clubs -- Chicago Southeast and Chicago Rogers Park -- got together on 16 October at the Ramada Inn Lake Shore to meet and greet, network and share ideas during a **joint Rotary meeting**. After brief welcome addresses by Chicago Southeast President Derrick K. Baker and Chicago-Rogers Park President James Robinson, Rotarians introduced themselves and talked briefly about what it means to them to be a Rotarian. Later both clubs benefited from an insightful presentation by Steve Casey, program associate at the MacArthur Foundation, who explained the foundation's history, goals, and funding philosophies, among other important topics.

**November is Rotary Foundation Month  
Hey world, we Rotarians have a great Foundation!!!**

And you are a better place because of it!!!

Need to prevent a disease which has devastated humanity for thousands of years? We're working on that. Millions of people can walk and breathe today because of our efforts and those of our partners against polio. Believe in promoting international understanding among people. We're with you. Rotarians are running the largest privately funded university-level international exchange program in the world – the Ambassadorial Scholarships program.

We're also running the Rotary Centers for International Peace and Conflict Resolution to promote greater tolerance and cooperation among people and the short-term Group Study Exchange program for individuals in the early stages of their careers. All in all Rotarians have fostered international friendship and tolerance for 80,000 individuals who have traveled on our exchange programs and the countless people they have encountered along the way. All this and more we accomplish on a daily basis through The Rotary Foundation.

To really appreciate the diversity of how we Rotarians use our Foundation to address global needs, just take a look at our Matching Grants Program which addresses almost every need imaginable. In Rotary year 2001-2002, 2638 Matching Grants were awarded for projects in 115 countries at a value of \$27.5 million dollars. As in most years, medical/health (481 projects) and education/literacy (453 projects), were the most frequently implemented project types. Other important project categories focused on safe drinking water, avoidable blindness, children/youth, the disabled, vocational training, and sanitation.

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

[www.rotary6450.org](http://www.rotary6450.org)

*The Rotarian Magazine*

A few recent examples of Matching Grants include:

- ◆ The Rotary clubs of Offenburg, Germany, and Olsztyn, Poland, teamed up to provide 20 hearing-impaired Polish children with a wireless hearing-aid system. The system makes it easier for the children to converse and participate in school classes.
- ◆ The Rotary Clubs of Chinchu, Peru and Moncton, Canada partnered to provide a "Mechanical Soya Cow" for a home for street children in Chinchu. The daily output of "milk" helps to alleviate malnutrition among local children.
- ◆ Rotarians from District 5280/USA, 3080 and 3130 in India, and 9110/Nigeria brought the "Intercontinental Medicare Project" to Nigeria. This important effort brought 454 corrective eye surgeries, 150 polio orthopedic surgeries, 50 ear-nose-throat surgeries, and dental care to 200 underprivileged individuals.

Upon becoming a Rotarian, each of us becomes part owner-manager-caretaker-beneficiary of The Rotary Foundation. It is up to us to make and keep our Foundation strong. It is also up to us to fully take advantage of the great opportunities it offers and to use it to better the lives of those who need it most. Let's have November – Rotary Foundation Month – be the month that all of our members learn about, contribute to, and put to use the great programs of our Rotary Foundation.

**Paul Carpenter, District TRF Chair**  
847-866-3343 – [carpentp@rotaryintl.org](mailto:carpentp@rotaryintl.org)

*Every Rotarian, Every Year -- Your gift to the Rotary Foundation, your use of its humanitarian grants, and your promotion of its educational opportunities makes you an active participant in the war against hunger, disease, ignorance, homelessness, and the misunderstandings between people which so often lead to violence. Contact your club treasurer to make a gift or make one online at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).*

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Please send any address changes to Jerry Palm, District Secretary, at [jpalmlect@aol.com](mailto:jpalmlect@aol.com). DO NOT SEND articles or photos. Articles and photos should be sent to the Editor at the address listed on page 12.

**DG Chuck Johnson's official visits to clubs in November/December**

04, Joliet – 06, Park Forest – 11, Oak Forest – 13, Elmhurst AM and Elmhurst – 18, Westmont – 20, Orland Park - 25, Wilmington - 02, Norridge-Harwood Heights - 04, Lockport - 09, Franklin Park.

### *From the Editor's Desk*

Thank you so much to all the Rotarians who made this issue possible, particularly **Lou Volodka and Kathy Kobak**.

In **December** we would like to call all **District 6450 Rotarians to share their Rotary chuckles**. Have you or your Rotary Club had humorous experiences that should be shared with the rest of the Rotarians in District 6450? Did that "Can't Miss" fundraiser cause your club to "lose its shirt?" Did you invite a prospective member to a meeting and suddenly find yourself named as the membership chair? Did you have words with the Disk Jockey at a club event only to find out that you were talking to the DG, not the DJ? Have you had an occasion to say, "Last year I couldn't even spell Rotarian, and now I are the President Elect!" If you can say "Yes!" to these questions or have other anecdotes that would *bring a smile to your fellow Rotarians in District 6450, please send your entries by 15 November to Reina S. Diamond at [rmldiamond@aol.com](mailto:rmldiamond@aol.com)*.

### *More Club News:*

#### **Woodridge**

**Holiday poinsettias are now available for advance purchase from Woodridge Rotarians.** The annual holiday sale is a major contributor to funds that support the community service projects sponsored by Rotary. "We use the money raised by our holiday sale to support college and Park District scholarships, the Community Resource Center, and the Community Pantry," according to Debbie Mascitti, Club President. Members are selling red, white, pink, and money poinsettias for \$8.00. Purchases can be picked up at the Fifth Third Bank, 75<sup>th</sup> Street and Janes Avenue, Woodridge, on Saturday 6 December 2003 from 9 AM to 1 PM.

To make a purchase, contact any Woodridge Rotarian or call Rob Girgis, at 769-0707; Geoff Korous at 719-4727; John Perry at 719-4707; Keith Frankland at 985-0300; or Debbie Mascitti at 810-2403. For information, contact John Perry at 630-719-4707.

#### **Blue Island-Crestwood**

On **29 February 2004** we will be hosting our annual spaghetti dinner fund raiser. Tickets will be \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. We will also have a bake sale and cash raffle at the event. Once the tickets are printed we will be mailing tickets to all clubs in the district. It will be held at our weekly meeting place which is the Crestwood Elks Club, two blocks east of Cicero on the Midlothian Turnpike. We are looking forward to seeing all Rotarians at our dinner.  
**Mark E. Lehocky, Club President**

## **DISTRICT 6450 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **TAKE NOTE AND MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

#### **2003**

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 9 November<br>12:30 pm            | <b>District Fellowship</b><br>Tommy Gun's Garage<br>1239 S State, Chicago                           |
| 12 November                       | <b>Orientation Meeting/Area 9</b>   |
| 13 November                       | <b>Orientation Meeting/Area 11</b>  |
| 14 November                       | <b>Joliet Rotary Club 90<sup>th</sup><br/>Anniversary Celebration</b><br>Renaissance Center, Joliet |
| 15 November<br>8:00 am – 12:00 pm | <b>Rotary Youth Exchange</b><br>District Interviews Students<br>La Grange Country Club              |
| 1 December                        | <b>Orientation Meeting/Area 2</b>   |
| 7 December<br>2:00-4:00 pm        | <b>Western Springs Rotary Club<br/>Annual International<br/>Christmas Reception</b>                 |

#### **2004**

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 17 January  | <b>President's ROUNDTABLE</b><br>TBA   |
| 23 February | <b>Rotary 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday</b>   |
| 12 March    | <b>2004-2005 PETS for Districts<br/>6450 and 6440, Marriott<br/>Hickory Ridge Conf. Center</b> |
| 13 March    | <b>2004-2005 District Assembly,</b><br>Marriott Hickory Ridge CC                               |
| 29-30 April | <b>Rotary International District<br/>6450 Conference</b><br>The Abbey, Fontana, Wisconsin      |
| 23-26 May   | <b>95<sup>th</sup> Rotary International<br/>Convention</b><br>Osaka, Japan                     |

## *Focus on Area 1*

### **Bensenville**

The Bensenville Rotary Club has 15 members at the present time. The club recently added the new Superintendent of the Bensenville Elementary Schools as a new member. The club is very active in education and gives a number of scholarships to high school students and supports the Northeast DuPage Recreation Association. The club this year held a joint community meeting with an organization called Life Link which offers services to people in need. The club has also been active in Little League.

The club is planning to participate in the Temple Solar Oven Project for International Service. Area 1 is in the process of planning a new members orientation program. In July of this year the club expected to receive three new members.

### **Norridge-Harwood Heights**

The club is actively involved in being Salvation Army Bell Ringers and providing food baskets to needy families. The club provides mentoring and job shadowing with Ridgewood High School as well as providing survival skills to special education students.

The club is planning on supporting the PolioPlus program and the Race to the Finish, and is participating in the local village festival.

### **Melrose Park**

The club has an emphasis on service in the area of optometry. They provide vision screenings locally and work a booth at the Taste of Melrose. They sponsor an Interact Club and have also provided and continue to give scholarships.

The club is planning a meeting on the Temple Solar Oven Project and hopes to support this project monetarily.

### **Chicago O'Hare**

Chicago O'Hare serves the airport area and many members work in aviation. They sponsor scholarships, sponsor the USO Lounge, Traveler's Aid, works with Boy Scouts and the YMCA Camp.

The club continues to be very active in international service and has an excellent program "Feed the Children", which is an amazing and exemplary program to feed the children in Angola. The club has also sent dental chairs to needy countries.

The club is planning a joint meeting in November with Norridge and Franklin Park to communicate and work with their neighboring clubs. It is hoped that this cooperation will lead to greater area fellowship and working together to serve others.

### **Franklin Park**

Franklin Park Rotary Club has a strong emphasis on service in the area of education. They celebrate the students who are in the top ten percent of their high school class. This year they are having Governor Chuck Johnson as the speaker to address the students at a banquet. The club supports scholarships, RYLA and they sponsor an interact club at Leyden High School.

In the area of international service they have supported and continue to support polio plus and the Heifer Project. They have donated a flock of chickens to a community in a third world country.

They are planning to become involved in the Rotary Foundation more by exploring the possibility of matching grants. They are presenting a foundation program on October 14 as a prelude to the October 25 Foundation Seminar.

**Thank you to ADG Charles Ezell for coordinating this effort.**

***Please Lend a Hand:*** Chicago Midwest on Rotary in Pilsen - No one knew what Rotary was when we started. We did know we were in a neighborhood with a 67% high school drop out rate and a steady, constant gang violence. Rotary seemed to offer a way to help. With a handful of people and a miniscule budget, we plugged away with tutoring and RYLA, book collections and gardens cleanups. Several weeks ago DG Chuck Johnson stopped by and explained how the district could help. We had tiny resources of manpower or funds, but a plethora of projects. There were plenty of other clubs in the district with more resources who were looking for projects. The chess and the homework clubs were perfect projects to enlist other clubs. The chess clubs show kids an alternative, and make intellectual pursuits "acceptable" (for \$1500.00 per year per school, we could fund a club and a program at the library). A local arts group (Pros Arts) fosters literacy with a vibrant "Readers' Theater," for a similar budget. Our web site [www.stopkillingkids.com](http://www.stopkillingkids.com) seeks solutions for the gang violence. This community didn't know what Rotary was, but that will change as more Rotary T-shirts show up from chess and homework clubs. That will change as more parents benefit from parent education workshops. That will change with your help. Please contact club President Rick Callahan at 312- 666-8093 or [rcent@rcn.com](mailto:rcent@rcn.com).

## Group Study Exchange (GSE)

### Team Bound for India

Four young professionals, who are not Rotarians, are preparing to go to **Hyderabad, India**, from **2 January to 5 February 2004**, to study the culture for a month under the aegis of Rotary's Group Study Exchange Program. **Their Rotarian team leader from District 6450 is Guy Groot, member of the Aurora Sunrise Rotary Club.**

The GSE Team Members are: **Jacqueline Berger**, Director of Special Programs, University of Illinois at Chicago; **Yolanda Cesta-Cursach**, Assistant Director of Performance Program, Museum of Contemporary Art; **Jill Paider**, Professional Photographer; and **Michele Steele**, Producer, Business News TV. **Michael Hoadley**, Consultant, Vice President, Staubach DTZ, is the **Alternate**.

Hyderabad, in south central India, is prominent in the information technology industry and has a rich agricultural tradition. Rotary District 3150 has an outstanding record in membership development, having won the World Quest Competition during the 2002-03 Rotary year for having recruited more new members than any other district in the world.

*You may meet members of the outbound team at the Western Springs holiday celebration on 7 December and at the District Conference next spring.*

*If you are interested in assisting with our exchange next year with Manchester, England, contact Richard Ziegfeld, GSE District Committee Chair, at 815-370-1395; [richardziegfeld@hotmail.com](mailto:richardziegfeld@hotmail.com).*

To learn more about this Rotary International program, visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

## More Club News

### Bensenville

The Bensenville Rotary Club will be soon unveiling the new website used to deliver and promote the **Rotary Coffee fundraiser**: [www.servingtheworld.com](http://www.servingtheworld.com). This website allows other clubs to get in on the great fundraiser that the Bensenville Club started. "Everyone drinks coffee, or serves it, and so making money from selling coffee is a natural", remarks John Miller, the Bensenville Rotary's Coffee Chairperson, and originator of this project.

During the last week of October, National Honor Society and Interact students from Fenton High School partnered with the Bensenville Rotary in a fundraiser to benefit Rotary International's efforts to eradicate polio worldwide by 2005. Students circulated throughout the Bensenville and Wood Dale communities with Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF boxes. The donations people made into the orange UNICEF containers may be as small as a few pennies, but each dollar that is contributed will vaccinate a child against polio for life. The Bensenville Rotary matched the funds collected by the students, and 100% of the monies will go toward the polio elimination campaign.

The Bensenville Rotary meets at 12:15 at the Bella Vista Banquet Hall, 205 West Main Street in Bensenville. For more information, or to attend the meeting, please call Mr. Gordon Longley, 833-2880.

### Rotary Orientation Meetings

In an effort to give all Rotarians a **better understanding of Rotary, its structure and its many programs at local, district and international levels**, District Governor Chuck appointed a committee whose members are meeting with the clubs of each of the 12 district areas to make a presentation on these topics. The first three meetings took place in Areas 3, 6 and 7 as organized by their respective Assistant District Governors (ADG).

The next scheduled meetings will take place as follows:

\* **Area 9 (Aurora-Naperville, Bolingbrook, Lockport, Joliet, Plainfield, Romeoville) – 12 November**

ADG Howard Hamilton

\* **Area 11 (Chicago Heights, Homewood, Lansing, Matteson, Park Forest) – 13 November**

ADG Mike Slevnik

\* **Area 2 – (Addison, Elmhurst, Elmhurst Morning, Hinsdale-Oakbrook Gateway, Oak Brook) – 1 December**

ADG Monte Brandner

For information on locations, contact your club president or your ADG.

## Health Concerns

By PDG Irv Kaplan, Co-Coordinator for RI Zone 27

Not too long ago I wrote an essay entitled, "What Rotarians can do about Health Concerns without big dollars." The purpose of this document was to be proactive and suggest we raise awareness on the local level by including the distribution of information that could direct consumers of health care to local health clinics or similar places where their needs could be fulfilled.

Soon after this document was e-mailed, I received a positive response from some Rotarians in our zone and a few others as far away as Mexico and Brazil. Since that time, questions have arisen about our role as Health Concern Coordinators. Should we be reporters of deeds ongoing or be proactive and get something going ourselves?

Recently, I spoke to **RI President Johnathan Majiyagbe** and I asked what we might consider doing about **AIDS in Africa**. President Jonathan responded with several suggestions such as helping the orphans of AIDS victims and helping hospices to care for the stricken. Soon after, I started receiving reports about current Health Concerns programs and new programs being proposed. After all this activity, I decided to ask everyone to make an appeal in their respective districts to submit reports of 300 words or less describing Health Concern Programs and Projects already in progress. We can share them with their neighbor districts. What will this accomplish? Well, maybe it will keep Health Concerns on the front lines of our concerns for current and future planning.

I realize that at this time **PolioPlus, safe drinking water and prenatal care** are our primary goals. We all know there is much to do and a shortage of volunteers and dollars to battle every disease and birth defect that continues to challenge the human population. I do believe we are currently offering a full menu of assistance and hope large segments of our population's desperate human beings' needs could be addressed.

**Keep the reports coming and let's continue our efforts in the field of Health Concerns. E-mail all reports to [pdgikaplan@aol.com](mailto:pdgikaplan@aol.com) or fax them to 630-971-1271. Thank you!**

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL NEWSLETTER ARTICLES TO BE PUBLISHED IN A GIVEN MONTH BY THE **15th DAY OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH TO:**

REINA S. DIAMOND  
9300 Forestview  
Evanston, IL 60203

BUS: 847-425-3786 FAX: 847-679-3862  
E-MAIL: RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM

## ROTARY DISTRICT 6450 CONFERENCE

**29 April – 2 May 2004**

**Register NOW!**

The registration form will be available at the District 6450 Website on 1 November. If you register by 31 December 2003, the fee will \$ 475.00. On 1 January 2004, the fee will go up \$ 50.00.

For additional information, please contact **Marilyn Turner, Conference Promotions Chairperson**, at [mturner106@aol.com](mailto:mturner106@aol.com).

## 2003-2004 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Osaka, Japan

**May 23-26, 2004**

The tentative program includes pre-convention activities on 20-22 May, the opening ceremony of the convention on the evening of 23 May, and wonderful activities such as the House of Friendship, discussion workshops, host hospitality night, park fiesta, closing ceremony.

If you are planning on attending the Osaka Convention, contact **Rotarian Bob Keegan**, Rotary Club of Morris, at his home phone 815-941-1196 or his work phone 630-891-7634.

\*\*\*\*\*



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## *More Club News*

### **New Members in Lockport**

Jeff Underwood, club President, informed us that the club grew by three new members during the month of September. But what is just about as exciting is that we don't expect these new members to be dropping out any time soon. Every club has wrestled with the "back door." New members come in and almost as many leave. Sometimes this happens because of an unavoidable situation but often members just stop attending. This club has implemented an induction formula that includes two informational meetings with prospective members, greeting members as they arrive for the weekly meeting, attending a board meeting as well as four consecutive meetings all to give our new members a jump-start into Rotary.

Lockport Rotary held its first fundraising golf outing at the close of September. Dick Ives, Kelly Weis and Roger Jager along with the fantastic help of other club members not only pulled it off but increased the club's checking account with an unexpected boost. The President-elect, Diane Seiler, has already given the go-ahead to have it on the schedule again next year.

If you are in the Lockport area on Thursdays at noon, please know that you are always welcome to join this group of committed Rotarians at the Prairie Bluff Golf Course.

### **District 6450 Attendance and Membership Report September 2003**

attendance rank	club	attendance % for month	meetings held	members 7/1/2003
26	Addison	54	4	25
32	Aurora		3	
33	Aurora Naperville		4	
24	Aurora Sunrise	58	4	17
34	Bensenville		4	
1	Berwyn	92	4	13
35	Blue Island Crestwood		4	
36	Bolingbrook		5	
37	Bradley Bourbonnais		4	
38	Broadview		4	
39	Brookfield Riverside		4	
40	Burr Ridge Willowbrook		4	
12	Chicago Financial District	71	4	30
27	Chicago Heights	54	4	49
42	Chicago Midwest		4	
43	Chicago Near South		4	
44	Chicago Northwest		4	
45	Chicago O'Hare		4	
41	Chicago		5	
31	Chicago Rogers Park	38	5	
46	Chicago Southeast		4	
48	Cicero		4	
49	Countryside		4	
20	Darien	63	5	28
50	Downers Grove		4	
51	Dwight		5	

23 Elmhurst	61	4	54
11 Elmhurst Morning	73	4	15
21 Evergreen Park	63	4	22
28 Franklin Park	53	5	13
13 Hinsdale	71	5	51
29 Hinsdale Oak Brook Gateway	53	4	27
8 Homewood	75	4	66
52 Joliet		5	
30 Kankakee	51	4	36
17 LaGrange	66	4	39
6 Lansing	80	4	20
16 Lisle	68	5	23
25 Lockport	58	4	53
53 Manteno		5	
7 Matteson	78	5	24
9 Maywood	75	4	18
54 Melrose Park		4	
2 Moraine Valley	90	5	8
55 Morris		5	
56 Naperville		4	
10 Naperville Sunrise	74	4	89
19 New Lenox	64	4	
22 Norridge Harwood Heights	63	5	13
57 Oak Brook		4	
14 Oak Forest	70	5	23
3 Oak Lawn	88	4	26
58 Oak Park River Forest		4	
15 Orland Park	70	4	62
4 Oswego	81	4	35
5 Park Forest	81	4	29
18 Plainfield	65	4	29
59 Romeoville		4	
60 Tinley Park Frankfort		4	
61 Western Springs		4	
62 Westmont		5	
63 Wilmington		4	
64 Woodridge		4	